

CLAIMS

SUB A1

1. A data storage and retrieval apparatus
having a data processor, including a memory, central
processing unit, and first storage medium, which
5 performs migration for transferring a file stored in
the first storage medium to a second storage medium
provided outside of the data processor and then
generates an information file including access
information for the file in the first storage medium,
10 comprising:

an information acquisition means for reading
said access information from the information file
stored in the first storage medium when the data
processor accesses a migrated file,

15 a file opening means for opening the
transferred file in the second storage medium based on
the access information acquired from the information
acquisition means, and

20 a reading means for reading the stored data
from the opened file and storing it in a predetermined
region on the memory of the data processor.

2. A data storage and retrieval apparatus as
set forth in claim 1, wherein the data processor is a
computer.

25 3. A data storage and retrieval apparatus as

set forth in claim 1, wherein the first storage medium is a hard disk.

4. A data storage and retrieval apparatus as set forth in claim 1, wherein the second storage medium is a removable medium.

5. A data storage and retrieval apparatus as set forth in claim 1, wherein the data processor determines a priority of migration based on a predetermined standard for a plurality of files stored on the first storage medium and performs the migration from the file with the highest priority.

6. A data storage and retrieval apparatus as set forth in claim 1, wherein a file stored on the first storage medium has an information region for storing file management information and a data region for storing data; all of the data of the data region is transferred to the second storage medium by the migration; and an information file is generated in the first storage medium.

7. A data storage and retrieval apparatus as set forth in claim 1, wherein the information file contains the file management information, access information to the file transferred to the second storage medium, and size information of the file on the first storage medium before the migration.

8. A data storage and retrieval apparatus as set forth in claim 1, wherein the data region of the file on the first storage medium is opened up after the information file is generated.

5 9. A data storage and retrieval apparatus as set forth in claim 6, wherein a file including the transferred file and the access information to the data is formed in the second storage medium by the migration.

10 10. A data storage and retrieval apparatus as set forth in claim 1, wherein the file opening means generates a file descriptor specifying a file transferred to the second storage medium based on the access information.

15 11. A data storage and retrieval apparatus as set forth in claim 10, wherein the reading means reads the content of a file opened by the opening means based on the file descriptor and stores it in a predetermined region of the memory of the data
20 processor.

25 12. A data storage and retrieval apparatus as set forth in claim 8, further comprising a file closing means for closing a file opened by the opening means based on the file descriptor after the data finishes being read.

SUB A27

13. A data storage and retrieval method wherein a data processor, including a memory, central processing unit, and first storage medium, performs migration for transferring a file stored in the first storage medium to a second storage medium provided outside of the data processor, then generates an information file including access information to the first storage medium, comprising steps of:

reading said access information from the information file stored in the first storage medium when the data processor accesses a migrated file,

opening the transferred file in the second storage medium based on the read access information, and

reading the stored data from the opened file and storing it in a predetermined region on the memory of the data processor.

14. A data storage and retrieval method as set forth in claim 13, wherein the data processor determines a priority of migration based on a predetermined standard for a plurality of files stored on the first storage medium and performs the migration from the file with the highest priority.

15. A data storage and retrieval method as set forth in claim 13, wherein a file stored in the first

storage medium has an information region for storing
file management information and a data region for
storing data and the migration comprises transferring
the data of the data region to the second storage
5 medium and generating an information file in the first
storage medium.

16. A data storage and retrieval method as set
forth in claim 15, further comprising a step of
opening up the data region of the file on the first
10 storage medium after generating the information file.

17. A data storage and retrieval method as set
forth in claim 13, wherein the migration forms a file
containing the transferred data and access information
to the data in the second storage medium.